The purpose of programming is to find a sequence of instructions that will automate the performance of a task (which can be as complex as an operating system) on a computer, often for solving a given problem.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference.  
Transpiling on the other hand, takes the source-code from a high-level programming language and converts it into bytecode.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.